

Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (SRTTG) Call
Thursday, August 6, 2015 | 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

Participants:

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|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Ken Emanuel, SWRCB | • Diane Riddle, SWRCB |
| • Paul Fujitani, USBR | • Rich Satkowski, SWRCB |
| • John Hannon, USBR | • Jim Smith, FWS |
| • Tim Hayden, Yurok Tribe | • Stacey Smith, USBR |
| • Bob Hughes, CDFW | • Brycen Swart, NMFS |
| • Sara John, NMFS | • Thuy Washburn, USBR |
| • Dan Kratville, CDFW | • Garwin Yip, NMFS |
| • Ken Kundargi, CDFW | • Paul Zedonis, USBR |
| • Beth Lawson, CDFW | |
| • Duane Linander, CDFW | |
| • Scott Ligare, SWRCB | |
| • Tom Patton, Western | |

Note-taking:

- Kelsey Rugani, Kearns & West

Action Items

- Reclamation to add a legend to the bottom of the Shasta Lake Profile.
- Reclamation to run new model runs.

Key Discussion Topics with Summary of Outcomes and Agreements:

Operations Update – Shasta Dam TCD Configuration

Reclamation shared that Shasta TCD curtain insulation began on August 3. The current status is that unit five will be completed by August 6 and unit four will continue insulation on August 7. Units 4 and 3 will complete insulation next week. During the insulation, Reclamation will continue to make TCD gate changes. When divers are in the water, adjacent gates cannot be opened. Reclamation will make adjustments to these constraints to maintain temperatures at Clear Creek (CCR).

Last year, water was mixing in with the middle gate and may have contributed to the water warming up. Reclamation is installing the curtains in hopes of less warm water mixing. The curtain is made of the same material as the Oak Bottom Curtain. The curtain should be durable and potentially, Reclamation can use it in future years depending on how it fares this year.

Reclamation confirmed that the curtains go over middle gate and not over the pressure release gates. The curtains are 45 ft wide and 65 ft long and five of them will be installed in the middle gates. While the curtains are in place, middle gates will not operate. At this point, Reclamation is anticipating removing the curtains in the fall when they are not needed anymore.

Fisheries Update

As of August 5, fish are still spawning upstream with 50% of the carcasses observed between Keswick (KWK) and ACID Dam, 28.8% between ACID and the Highway 44 Bridge, 17.1% between the Highway 44 Bridge and Clear Creek (CCR), and 4.1% below Clear Creek (CCR).

Over 1,000 carcasses have been seen this year. Regarding aerial redds surveys, 39.5% of the redds observed between Keswick (KWK) and ACID Dam, 59.3% between ACID and the Highway 44 Bridge, and 1.2% between the Highway 44 Bridge and Airport Road Bridge. CDFW is still seeing fish spawn and the peak should emerge around mid-September.

CDFW has agreed on a temperature management plan that keeps a target of 57°F into September and October.

The FWS' Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery has completed all trapping and spawning. FWS has seen a relatively high pre-spawn mortality rate this year and is unsure of the cause. FWS gets very few four-year old adults ever and gets variations between two and three-year olds. An estimate of between 300,000 and 350,000 juveniles will be released this year. The Red Bluff Diversion Dam rotary screw traps have captured winter-run juveniles everyday for about a month and is catching between one and ten fish per day.

Operations Update – Temperature Summary

Reclamation shared that Keswick (KWK) is running at 7,200 cfs. Reclamation advised that the water quality in the Delta is improving.

Clear Creek (CCR) has been quite cool since water coming out of the TCD has been cooler and the air temperature has been around 85°F.

The TCD-weighted average temperature has run about 53-54°F as of August 5. Reclamation has made some changes to bring in warmer water and get the weighted average temperature closer to 55°F. These changes should get Clear Creek (CCR) to 57°F.

Operations Update – Shasta Profile

Reclamation reviewed an updated Shasta Lake Profile with new information from August 5. At this point in 2014, all five middle gates were closed and all five PRG gates were open. Currently, 2-3 PRG gates are closed. Reclamation shared that not all middle gates will be closed until the installation of the curtains is complete. Reclamation noted that five gates have to be open at any given time.

Action: Reclamation to add a legend to the bottom of the Shasta Lake Profile.

Action: Reclamation to run new model runs.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the SRTTG is scheduled for August 13th at 1:00 p.m.